

REMARKS

Claims 1-7, 10-16, 19 and 20 are pending. Claims 1, 11 and 20 have been amended. Claims 8, 9, 17 and 18 have been canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Applicants have accepted the Examiner's determination that claims 9 and 18 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, Applicants have amended the corresponding base claims 1 and 11, respectively, to include the features of allowable claims 9 and 18, as well as the features of the intervening claims 8 and 17. Additionally, Applicants have amended claim 20 to depend from amended claim 11, thereby rendering moot the previously identified informality contained therein. Therefore, in view of these amendments, Applicants submit that claims 1-7, 10-16, 19 and 20 are allowable for the reasons of record.

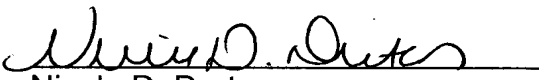
It is believed that this Amendment does not require any additional fees. However, if additional fees are required for any reason, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-4800 the necessary amount.

In the event that there are any questions concerning this paper, or the application in general, the Examiner is respectfully urged to telephone Applicants' undersigned representative so that prosecution of the application may be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

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